



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 11 15th November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,



This week we started by taking a moment to think about others and reflect on why we wear poppies and take part in remembrance services on the 11th of November. Many of our children came into school wearing different uniforms of the groups and clubs that they attend outside of school.

We joined our secondary friends in the atrium to observe the last post and a minute silence. Our uniformed children and school parliament then gathered next to our soldier (out the front of the school) to lay poppy wreaths in memory of those who have and continue to fight for our country. The service was extremely moving, however our children were both mature and respectful in all of their actions.



On Monday our Eagles class had their first swimming lesson within school. It was lovely to see them so excited to go on the coach and to swim with their classmates. Over lunch the children were discussing how much fun they had had but also the importance of learning this life skill. If you are able to support us financially in helping us to cover the cost of the coach each week to the swimming pool, please do so via our School Gateway app.

Today we celebrated Children in Need the children and adults came to school wearing their pyjamas and have taken part in many activities including a Joe Wicks fitness class.



We set ourselves the challenge to beat his 1000 Burpee record and I am pleased to report that we absolutely smashed it . Please continue to donate online via our just giving page in order to help children and families less fortunate than ourselves.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/ava-primary-phase-1731063858934?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fava-primary-phase-1731063858934&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Mr. O'Leary has attached to this update his half term sports round up for the last half term. Mr O'Leary is a keen sportsman himself and in the short time that he has been solely in the primary school has made a huge difference to the number of sports and fixtures that we are able to offer. Our football team have been involved in three matches over the last seven days. We are exhausted just watching them. They have had mixed results however what remains a constant is their enthusiasm, teamwork, and determination. As we explained to all of the children in the teams, we are extremely proud of their attitude and their pride in representing the school.

Late Collection and Wrap Around Policies

We must draw your attention to two new policies on our web site. One is confirmation of our Wrap Around Provision and the other is a new one regarding late collection.

Whilst we understand that emergencies happen, we are not able to provide childcare once the teaching day is over without compromising our staffing ratios and provision for parents who have paid in advance for extended day services. Many of our staff have commitments outside of the teaching hours and of course are parents themselves. We have a duty of care to them as much as we do in safeguarding all our children.

If a parent is late picking up their child, we have a fine system in place of £20 per child per instance plus any charges for wrap around care.

Please read through the policy and the steps taken in this process.

Christmas Schedule (Year R-6)

As I write this, we are exactly halfway through November. As always, December is proving to be busy and full of the Christmas cheer.

I have attached below a brief list of all of the Christmas activities. You will receive the relevant information from your child's phase leader, for each of the different activities. I just wanted to ensure that you have these important dates in your diary in order to plan your own schedules over the busy period. I have added 'PARENTS' to the events that you are able to attend.

Tues 3rd Dec 9.00am IROCK concert to parents (primary hall)

Wed 4th Dec AM Yr 2 post letters to Santa (walk to post box)

Thurs 5th Dec 1.00pm Choir at Roman Park

Friday 6th Dec 11.30 Year 6 watching secondary drama show

Mon 9th Dec 9.30am Reception Christmas Show (primary hall) - PARENTS

Mon 9th Dec 1.45pm Year1&2 Nativity (primary hall) Ticketed due to numbers - PARENTS

Tues 10th Dec 9.30am Year1&2 Nativity (primary hall) Ticketed due to numbers - PARENTS

Wed 11th Dec 9.30am Year 3 Christingle (primary hall) Ticketed due to numbers - PARENTS

Wed 11th Dec 11.20am - CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Thurs 12th Dec 9.30am Year 3 Christingle (primary hall) Ticketed due to numbers - PARENTS

Thurs 12th Dec 9.30am Drama Club show to parents

Sat 14th Dec 4pm Choir at Fairford Leys - PARENTS

Sun 15th Dec 5pm Choir at Roman Park - PARENTS

Mon 16th Dec 2pm Year 4&5 singing YEAR 5 PARENTS ONLY (primary hall) - PARENTS

Tues 17th Dec 2pm Year 4&5 singing YEAR 4 PARENTS ONLY (primary hall) - PARENTS

Tues 17th Dec Evening Year 6 Carols (Secondary Hall) - PARENTS

Fri 20th Dec - finish from 12.00-12.20pm

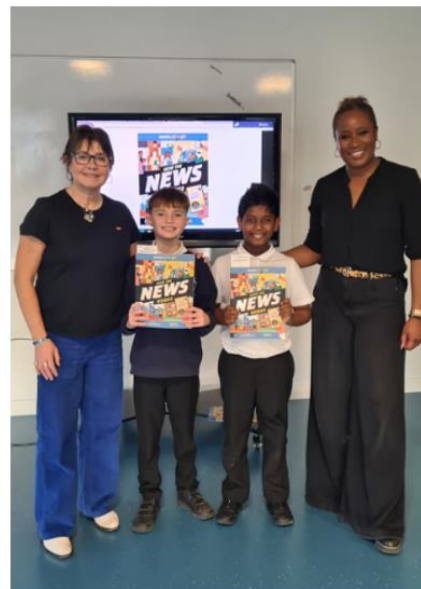
Author Visits

On Monday, we were very busy with two author visits! In the morning, Years 2 and 3 welcomed in Loretta Schauer, illustrator of the wonderful 'Yetis Don't Exist'.

Loretta was fantastically engaging, and the children really enjoyed her session. She read her book and talked about the choices she made to illustrate the story. The children were then taught to draw their own yeti! We definitely have some budding illustrators at AVA Primary!

Years 5 and 6 were also treated to a visit from Jane Marlow and Charlene White (ITV news presenter, presenter on Loose Women and former I'm a Celeb... contestant).

Jane and Charlene came in to talk about their new book, 'How the News Works', giving the children a behind-the-scenes look at working in the news industry. This was extremely informative, and the children were so engaged with the knowledge and expertise shared with them. As always, thank you for your continued support with our fantastic author visits.



Anti-Bullying Week

This week you will have also noticed many of us wearing odd socks. This wasn't an accident and wasn't due to be behind with the washing!! This was our way of demonstrating that we support anti-bullying week. Thank you to everyone who supported Anti-Bullying Week this week, producing poems and posters and wearing Odd Socks to celebrate that we are all different, some even wore their dads! The theme this year was to 'Choose Respect' and our children definitely did this!

UK Parliament Week

This week has been national school parliament week, we are very proud of our amazing school parliament. Miss Pickett and Mr Johnson led our learning around Parliament for UK Parliament week. They both led informative assemblies on this, with Key Stage 2 learning about the Suffragette movement and equality. Key Stage 1 were given more information about what Parliament actually is, how it works and who our MP is for Aylesbury.

The parliament at AVA are instrumental in making decisions, touring visitors, interviewing, helping with school activities such as parent's evenings and most importantly they enable all children in the school to have a voice and be heard.

We have given the children some fun activities related to parliament, including making a puzzle of the state opening. Have a discussion with your children and see if they can remember what they have learnt!



No Pens Day – Friday 22nd November 2024

On Friday 22nd November, the Primary Phase are taking part in No Pens Day. This is an event that runs in conjunction with Speech and Language UK and shines a light on the importance of speech and language for young people. Teachers estimate that, in the UK today, 1.9 million children struggle with talking and understanding words. Without the right support, they face huge hurdles in learning, making friends and staying in good mental health. As a phase, we put a big emphasis on oracy within our curriculum. No Pens Day will allow classes even more scope to use language in different ways within their daily lessons... all without the power of a pen!

Here are some ways you can encourage oracy in your homes:

Read aloud to your child – reading is an important skill which children should do daily... but don't forget the importance of them listening to a story too! Encourage your child to ask questions about what you are reading to them, and discuss the emotions explored in the story.

Play word games

Games like 20 Questions, Guess Who? and I Spy are great for helping children use descriptive language and think critically about what they're saying.

Talk about their day

Ask your child, 'What did you do today?' and they'll often claim they can't remember, so find different ways to talk about what they've been up to. Eating your evening meal as a family or chatting in the car is a good way to encourage conversation.

Go on a walk

Talk about the 5 senses – what can you see / smell / hear / touch / taste (if appropriate!)? What do you like about being outside?

Diabetes Awareness Month/Day

You may be aware that November is Diabetes Awareness month and November the 14th was National Diabetes Awareness day.

Our cohort of students who are living with Type 1 Diabetes are keen to recognise this, however, with so much already planned for the week ahead, they are happy to wait until later in November. More on this to follow...

National Diabetes Awareness Day takes place on the 14th November to honour the birthday of Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin, alongside Charles Best, in 1922. Their work, and that of many since, such as this year's Pride of Britain winner, Dr Sheila Reith, who conceptualised and developed the insulin pen, have improved the lives of so many families!

The focus of this year's campaign by Diabetes UK is looking beyond blood glucose, and focus on the well-being of those living with Diabetes, whilst raising money to support vital research that will hopefully, lead to a cure for the young people we support today. this is why:

<https://youtu.be/nJ09-n6Qvel?si=wuqrU6TalCrhV3VV>

Unfortunately, youngsters are often very poorly when their children are diagnosed. Attached are two information posters. One about what Type 1 Diabetes is, the other, signs and symptoms to look out for in children.

SEND Support Phone Line - 01296 382135

We are open every day between 10am and 4pm and until 6pm on Tuesdays. The line is for parents, professionals and anyone with enquiries about SEND in Buckinghamshire.

Please note that the support line is open between 10am and 2pm during school holidays and is closed on Bank Holidays.

Starting School

A reminder for all parents with children due to start school (in Reception) in September 2025 that the portal to apply is now open. Please apply within a timely manner as late applications could cause you to miss out on chosen schools.

Starting School!

Upcoming Scholastic Book Fair & Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

Tomorrow, **Saturday 16th November 2024**, we will be holding our first Scholastic Book Fair! It will run between 9:00am and 12:00pm in our Primary Hall and is a perfect time to buy some Christmas presents!

Whilst we run the book fair, we will also be selling our pre-loved uniform items – all items available will include the AVA logo.

Scholastic Book Fair – card only

Pre-loved Uniform – cash only (donations)

We look forward to seeing many of you there!



Reflection

On Monday of this week our AVA community paused for 1 minute of silence to remember those who have lost their lives through war.



At this time of remembrance, we know there are still wars and conflicts all around the world. This week, we pray for peace and that we can make a world in which peace is possible for all of humanity, and all of creation.

A prayer for remembrance...

God of all grace,
Show us how to use the resources we have,
and the blessings you have given to us,
to transform society and bring peace and justice for all.
We ask all this in your name.
Amen.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes.

Mrs C Baughan

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Primary SEND concerns

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsKSZm5ilcidJig5HlqRjQUZUMEVCUk1PMUZXRtq1UllUVVBaSFNYUFICMi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cA359AD1B-53A8-5F47-9B1A-80EC4AFA2E4C



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/theaylesburyvaleacademyprimary>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/avaprimar?&s=09>



Instagram: <https://instagram.com/avaprimar?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

Any questions, please contact avaprimar@theacademy.me FAO: Mrs Clark

Parking issues: [FixMyStreet \(buckinghamshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/fixmystreet)



Aylesbury Town Council's

Christmas

on the

Cobbles

Sunday 24 November
Aylesbury Town Centre
12 noon-5:30pm

FREE
EVENT



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL



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